

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Official Action dated September 7, 2006. In response to the issues raised, we offer the following submissions. We also enclose Terminal Disclaimers to US 7,077,505 and USSN 10/760,191.

Non-Statutory Double Patenting

The enclosed Terminal Disclaimers link the term and ownership of any patent granted on the present application to that of US 7,077,505 and USSN 10/760,191. We submit that this prevents any unjustified timewise extension of the Applicants exclusive rights or harassment from multiple Assignees.

Amendments to the Specification

Pages 1 and 33 have been amended to update US Application numbers with corresponding US granted Patent numbers. Additionally, pages 13,15,17-18, and 22 have been amended to correct typographical errors. The Applicant submits that no new matter is introduced.

Claims – 35USC§102

Claims 1 to 5 stand rejected for lack of novelty in light of US 6,612,240 to Silverbrook et al. The Applicant disagrees and submits that the cited reference fails to teach the present invention.

Claim 1 requires each printhead module to have at least two printhead integrated circuits (ICs) supported on a single support member that supplies printing fluid to both printhead ICs. The Examiner has equated the flex PCB (printed circuit board) of the '240 reference, with the printhead module of claim 1. The flex PCB 114 clearly does not have a support member for carrying printing fluid to both the printhead ICs. The printhead module of claim 1 more closely corresponds to the modules 104.1, 104.2, 106.1 and 106.2 shown in Figure 14. Each of these modules has ink galleries 136 that supply a single printhead IC 112 only (see Figure 12 and col. 5, lines 48-50). No ink galleries in the '240 reference connect to more than one printhead IC.

Claim 1 also requires the power supply to be connected to each end of the printhead assembly. This is clearly not the case in the '240 arrangement. The power and data for the printhead ICs is fed through the USB connector 124 at one end of the first printed circuit board (PCB)108 which is in turn 'daisy-chained' to the second PCB 110 via the connection 122.

Accordingly, the cited disclosure fails to anticipate the combination of elements defined by claim 1. Likewise, claims 2 to 5 are also novel by virtue of their dependence (directly or indirectly) from claim 1.

Conclusion

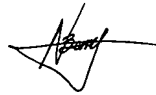
The Applicant respectfully submits that the claim rejection has been successfully traversed. Accordingly favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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